

SATURDAY EVENING REVIEW OF THE WEEK'S EVENTS, HERE, THERE AND EVERYWHERE

THE WEEK IN WASHINGTON

Happenings in the National Capital of Importance and Interest, Legislative and Political.

In the realm of foreign affairs, the most important development of the week in Washington has been the assurance received from the Japanese Government that the occupation of the Marshall Islands is only a temporary war measure. Japan sent word to the State Department Wednesday that the seizure of the archipelago was not now, and would not be, regarded as anything more than a temporary strategic move.

The postponement of the Pan-American peace conference, which was to have been held at Buenos Aires next month, was announced after a meeting of the directors of the Pan-American Union Wednesday, which Secretary of State Bryan attended. The European war is ostensibly the cause of the postponement.

There were no important developments in the Mexican situation, although the brief visit of John R. Silliman, the President's confidential agent with General Carranza, to the capital occasioned much speculation. Mr. Silliman left Washington for Mexico City Thursday night. The real nature of the Department's attitude toward Carranza is not clear from the information he gave the President has not yet been divulged.

Great Britain's alleged seizure of neutral vessels bearing copper and other "conditional contraband" to Dutch ports was the subject of a lively controversy in Washington. The British Ambassador, Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, gave assurance to the State Department that Great Britain's only plan was to prevent cargoes shipped to Dutch ports from being transhipped to Germany. A settlement of the problem probably will be worked out in the next few days.

Ecuador signified to Secretary of State Bryan her desire to enter into a pact with the United States in the familiar "sober-second-thought-before-war" treaties negotiated between this country and many other nations.

Various plans for the relief of the cotton growers of the South, who have lost almost their entire foreign market since the advent of the Department of War, were advanced this week. The effort to have any one of the plans culminate in legislation by Congress, to be passed before the opening of the present session, has so far proved abortive, although Southern members of the House have repeatedly threatened that they will permit no adjournment of Congress until some relief measure has been passed for the cotton planter.

Perhaps the most practicable plan yet developed has come through the initiative of Festus J. Wade, a St. Louis banker, who proposes the establishment of a \$100,000,000 cotton pool, to be composed of all the leading banks of the West and South. Mr. Wade brought a delegation of bankers to Washington Friday to meet with members of the Federal Reserve Board and President Wilson.

The war tax bill was modified in some vital details by the caucus of Democratic Senators Wednesday night and was reported to the Senate for consideration Thursday. The rates of beer, wine, and spirits and tobacco were raised, and reductions were made on the House levies on bankers and brokers. The tax on salaries was increased.

The Administration plans for the coming campaign were matured this week by various conferences at the White House. Secretary of State Bryan was assigned to speak in the Middle Western States, including Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, North and South Dakota, Kansas and Nebraska. His appearance on the stump in the Eastern States will be at the Academy of Music in Brooklyn next Tuesday evening.

Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo and Secretary of Commerce Rodfield will make several addresses to the public, probably a number in Pennsylvania. Secretary of Labor Wilson probably will make an extensive stump tour of the Keystone State. Postmaster General Burleson will spend about ten days in the Middle West, speaking in Cincinnati, Indianapolis and other cities.

"Compulsory conference" was held at the White House Friday night, at which plans were discussed by the President, Postmaster General Burleson, Representative Chairman of the House Committee on the Judiciary, Thomas J. Pender, of the Democratic National Committee, and Secretary J. P. Tumulty. The President's proposed revision of the tariff, by a vote of 24 to 16, adopted the conference committee agreement on the Clayton anti-trust bill, which materially supplements the Sherman anti-trust act. The Senate has approved the agreement, and the measure will now be presented to President Wilson for his approval, which will place the bill on the statute books.

FILIPINO FREEDOM

The Republican policy, as outlined in platforms and carried out by Republican Administrations, was to educate the Filipinos and give them a larger and larger measure of home rule. It has produced excellent results and there has been remarkable progress, but it is much too early to promise a complete independence. The time when complete self-government can be granted without injustice to the people of the islands and without ignoring our own obligations is far in the future, and this makes it all the more difficult to understand the Administration's reasons for favoring enactment of the Jones bill at this time.—Rochester Post-Express.

The autonomy question most positively is not one to be decided on the utility or hostility of the Philippines to us in case of war. If we are not justified in fighting them in peace, will we be justified in keeping them that we may draw on their resources in the event of war, that they may become a target for our armies to strike at in striking at us, that they may be forced to share in the devastation brought to us by a war in which they are only remotely concerned.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

The question of keeping the Philippine Islands need not be considered from the standpoint of self-interest at all, but purely from that of duty. The real question today is whether, having taken over the islands, we will do better for them than we have done in the past, or whether we will ignore our own obligations in favor in the future, and this makes it all the more difficult to understand the Administration's reasons for favoring enactment of the Jones bill at this time.—Rochester Post-Express.

It seems impossible to overwork a member of Congress to such a degree that he does not feel able and willing to come back.—Washington Times.

The Agricultural Department proposes to organize the boys and girls of New England into apple-growing clubs; if the idea would get any fun out of raising their own orchards.—Boston Transcript.

The lowest death rate ever recorded in the history of New York city falls at a time when millions of men in Europe are engaged with all their might in creating a death rate unequalled in the history of war.—New York World.

No one will care much about Slav and German and Anglo-Saxon culture for a few days while we are reading about Boston culture in the world's series—Grand Rapids Press.

The proposition to tax automobiles means that the people of the world who have to dodge them—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Turkey's only desire, according to A. Ruzen, is "to be let alone." It is sure to obtain that end by the only sure



HE'LL TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF—BUT CAN HE? From the Baltimore American.

COMMENT ON BUSINESS PROBLEMS

Editorial Suggestions Concerning Some of the Difficulties in the Business World.

What we need is to free the energies of the American mind from governmental shackles. We need a more vigorous course to American activity and ingenuity and let the American merchant find his markets or make them. What we need of government is a return to its original functions, when we would have better order and fewer laws and greater safety and less injustice and the true prosperity best built on the highest degree of personal freedom.—Louisville Post.

Much of our business depression is wholly mental. It is caused by paralysis of the mind. It is pure panic which induces confusion and inertia. Americans should set an example to the world of initiative, ingenuity and energy in meeting the business crisis, not only for our own benefit, but for the benefit of the millions abroad who are dependent upon us for supplies. Present prosperity and future rewards rest upon prompt, useful and efficient service in all lines of industrial and commercial activity. Let us do business and quit talking war.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

The cotton planters are not the only producers who are entreating us to buy something. Porto Rico is cut off from her European markets and she is now asking the American people to "buy a bag of her coffee." In a sense, Porto Rico is a part of our own household, and we should not incur the reproach of heartlessness by withholding consideration from her.—Boston Transcript.

As a man of peace the President cannot wish to make unnecessary trouble for himself. If it is not certain that it is as sure as shooting that government freights will get into trouble with one or another of the bakers' dozen of nations now of a temper to fight anybody about anything, the Government's boats might be without fault, and yet fault might be imputed to them. If it were a matter of Government duty to help about anything, it should be shirked. But it is, expressly urged as a matter of Government profit. That introduces an element of calculation and calculation is not a virtue.—New York Times.

Why doesn't the Administration continue its support of the ship purchase measure after the only possible excuse for governmental participation in the shipping business has been removed? Belief is growing that there would be great danger of international complications if a Government-owned fleet attempted to carry goods to Europe. It is pointed out that adoption of the plan favored by the President would prevent the establishment of a permanent merchant marine.—Rochester Post-Express.

The proposal to let the Government buy, own and operate merchant ships might perhaps be defended if such purchase were one step toward the re-establishment of an American merchant marine. But it is not such a step. The purchase and operation of merchant vessels by the United States Government would do nothing to encourage private capital to purchase and operate merchant vessels. On the contrary, it would discourage purchase and operation by private enterprise.—Outlook.

Already the transportation across the continent is changing to the canal route, and the railroads, to meet the rate, will meet with a declining revenue. But one railroad man says they won't lose, which is as much to say that the whole country is benefited by the benefit to any part of it.—Ohio State Journal.

Besides attending to the obvious work of organization, investigating foreign demand and advertising we must in minor details take the hint given by our rivals and ignore our own obligations in favor of the Jones bill at this time.—Rochester Post-Express.

EDITORIAL BREVITIES

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MEANS TO IT—STRICT NEUTRALITY AND THE PERFORMANCE OF ITS TREATY OBLIGATIONS?—New York World.

Chicago has a new defense. It's not that there's so much crime in Chicago, but that there's so much social conscience that you hear about it more.—Milwaukee Journal.

The blessings of peace do not necessarily include exemption from a war tax.—Washington Star.

Every boy born in Mexico seems to have a real chance to become President for a day, if the days hold out.—Los Angeles Express.

Carranza's friends seem loath to accept his resignation. In the circumstances that is a queer way of showing their friendship.—Charleston News and Courier.

What, people, do you think of a National House of Congress containing 43 members, passing upon so vital a matter as the Philippine question with only 72 members present and voting?—Milwaukee Sentinel.

One thoughtful educator rises to remark that the way to do is to emphasize the good in the child and minimize the bad, but the growing fear is that it will be a long time before this wise plan is generally adopted with respect to the neighbors' children.—Ohio State Journal.

VARIOUS TOPICS

The question of how long the war tax will last is of smaller importance than that respecting the life of the Underwood law, and what shape the new general tariff revision will take when developments force action on Congress.—Washington Star.

The nation should own the home of Thomas Jefferson, and Representative Levy's announcement of his charge of demerolium not to sell Monticello will

Here we have vicious, un-American class legislation favoring the mighty capitalists and the organized laborers against the great middle class of society, which finds itself each year harder pressed between the extortions of the monopolists and the requirements of the workers for higher wages and shorter hours.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

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THE RESPITE From the New York Tribune.

Political Prospects

The congressional elections this year bid fair to be overshadowed, like every year else political, by the European war, but it is evident that the Republican managers intend to raise all the clamor they can about war taxes in the name of peace. They will be wise, however, in sticking to that vague cry, with whatever effect it may have, rather than going into details.—New York Evening Post.

The next Congress should represent the United States without any regard to the man who happens just now to be the chief executive officer of the United States. In no other way can the people be assured that they know their rights and are bound to maintain them, not in any ostentatious or childish manner, but simply because these rights are necessary and useful.—Hartford Courant.

It is surprising that the Republican party fails to recognize the immense advantage made by the Democracy in respect to the tariff "it stands just where it did on the day after Wilson was elected"—Springfield Union.

The return of a Democratic majority (to the House), however greatly reduced, would signalize the most striking personal triumph of any President since Andrew Jackson overwhelmed the opposition in 1822. Now, as then, the issue is not a party, but a personality.—North American Review.

VIEWS ON THE NEW TRUST BILL

What Newspapers in All Parts of the Country Think About the Clayton Measure.

There are two considerations which appeal with much force to thoughtful people at the present time. One is that there is great danger in an overcentralized government, and in too close political control of industries. The war in Europe has its industrial as well as its political lessons. Imperialism in industry is as bad as imperialism in government. Our people have felt this, as has been shown by their opposition to ship subsidies, to the Government purchase and operation of a merchant marine and to extreme protection. We have in the last few years seen an enormous extension of the functions of the State, the new banking and currency law is the latest manifestation of that tendency. Possibly it will be just as well to stop, at least long enough to catch our breath.—Indianapolis News.

"I believe," Senator Brislow is quoted as saying, "that the President knows exactly what this conference report does and that he is supporting it because he does know what it does. I am convinced that the President has surrendered to the Administration to the most sinister influences in this republic. There has been no Administration since the beginning of the Government which has so abjectly surrendered to Wall street interests as this one has done." Wherefore, in the absence of any specific information as to the terms of the conference agreement, we are inclined to think it must be a very wise and wholesome one.—Galveston News.

It is this bill also which embraces the great principle that "the labor of a human being is not a commodity or an article of commerce. Hereafter no laborer can be penalized unless it violates the laws and proceedings in relation to and for contempt are wisely regulated. There is no surrender here. It is rather a triumph of good faith and good sense.—New York World.

An unnecessary reaffirmation of the Sherman anti-trust law and a little sop to the labor unions—prefaced with the profound philosophic declaration "that the labor of a human being is not a commodity or an article of commerce," and asserting that proper labor organizations should be recognized in restraint of trade—such a thing nobody had questioned. "Thou sayest an undisputed thing in such a solemn way"—the remark of Oliver Wendell Holmes to the kidney.—New York Herald.

This experimental anti-trust legislation, greatly increasing the scope of Federal Government and widening immeasurably its control over private business, strikes most men of affairs, regardless of political affiliations, as decidedly unfortunate. That there are problems in the present business situation admits of no doubt, but that this is the way to meet them is another story. But we shall have to await developments with such patience as we can muster.—Boston Herald.

The thoughtful lawyers and broad-minded students of economic legislation would shed no tears if the omnibus Clayton bill should accidentally or otherwise get lost somewhere. The country has not studied it; Congress does not know what it means or portends; it is as vague in its phraseology as it is drastic in its intent. It is a leap into the worst jungle of the tariff zone, or several such leaps into as many jungles.—Chicago Tribune.

Here we have vicious, un-American class legislation favoring the mighty capitalists and the organized laborers against the great middle class of society, which finds itself each year harder pressed between the extortions of the monopolists and the requirements of the workers for higher wages and shorter hours.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

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SEE WHAT THE DOVE BROUGHT From the New York World.

POLITICS IN PENNSYLVANIA

Progress of the Campaign and Some Illustrative and Picturesque Incidents.

The announcement that Martin G. Brumbaugh, Republican nominee for Governor, is financing his campaign independently of the Penrose-controlled Republican State Committee, and the successful efforts of friends of Roger C. Sullivan in the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections to postpone the Senate investigation of the primary expenses of Penrose and Sullivan, were important political events of the week.

A. Mitchell Palmer appeared before the Senate Committee early in the week and repeated his charge against Penrose. Penrose paid one of his infrequent visits to Washington, and made a strong fight to prevent the inquiry into his campaign methods. Indications were, however, that the investigation would be ordered, but yesterday Democratic members of the committee, who are friends of the Democratic candidate for United States Senator from Illinois, postponed the inquiry until after November 3.

Doctor Brumbaugh's positive stand in favor of local option caused the difference between the gubernatorial candidate and the Penrose-controlled State Committee.

In his week's campaign through the Cumberland Valley, he repeatedly defined his stand in regard to local option. After speaking at Scranton on Sunday and visiting Philadelphia on Monday, he recalled to a throng at Chambersburg on Tuesday the fact that in 1855 he led the fight in Huntingdon County for prohibition.

Officials of the Anti-Saloon League, which opened its campaign for local option on Sunday, have endorsed Vance C. McCormick, the Democratic and Washington party candidate for Governor. In recognition of Doctor Brumbaugh's local option stand, A. F. Huston, anti-liquor leader in Chester County, came out on Thursday in support of Doctor Brumbaugh's candidacy.

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COURSE OF THE EUROPEAN WAR

Military and Naval Operations Considered in Relation to Their Effect on Whole Situation.

War operations in France this week were devoted largely to flanking and counter flanking movements characterized by terrific fighting, as each advanced and are endeavoring to cut off the Germans operating against Antwerp. The movement means the shifting of the great battle to Belgian soil. And this has caused a line in activities on the German left. Almost no fighting has taken place in the region of the Vosges.

A surprise of the week was the sudden appearance of a strong German force near Lille on the Allies' extreme left, threatening lines of communication with French coast towns. The Allies were forced to retire at some points, but regained the lost ground after several days. Apparently the new movement by the invaders has removed the probability of the Allies' relieving the siege of Antwerp.

Star dependable accounts have come from the southern front of war. An Austrian army has advanced into Poland, where it was joined by a large German force from Silesia. The combined forces engaged in a bloody battle with the Russians along the Vistula, northwest of Cracow, but this conflict is only preliminary to the great clash which is due for possession of Cracow. A new Russian army has moved toward Thorn in East Prussia, a great stronghold, regarded as the key to Posen and thence Berlin. The Austrian-German junction came as a surprise to the Russians and may defeat the movement against Thorn.

In Eastern Galicia the Austrians have been pushed nearer to Cracow and the Russian advance has crossed the Donetz River, capturing Tarnow and other towns. In the west Przemysl has succumbed to the Russian bombardment, according to a late, but unconfirmed, report. Russia has reported further progress in the Carpathian passes, but successful invasion of Hungary is denied at Vienna.

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IN COMMERCE AND FINANCE

Events Significant of Present and Future Conditions in the Business World.

This week the Federal Reserve Board announced that Class C directors had been appointed for all of the 12 Federal reserve banks. Actual work of organization has already begun in several cities, all the directors of the 12 new institutions will confer with the Federal Reserve Board in Washington, on October 30 on plans to place the banks in operation.

It is felt that with the inauguration of the new banking system, which, as believed, will be placed in actual operation the early part of November, bank credit will be restored by bringing the leading banks within their full legal reserve. Under the new currency system reserves of banks will be cut down considerably, and this will be a very favorable influence, especially at the present time.

Steps were taken by banks in all cities in response to the call of the Gold Fund Committee for 25 per cent of the allotted contribution to the \$100,000,000 gold pool for the relief of the cotton planter. Philadelphia's first subscription, \$2,000,000, was deposited at the Clearing House in four hours, where it now is, if the disposal of the committee. That the gold has not been called for would seem to indicate that conditions are becoming better, or else that the subscription of other cities are sufficient for the moment. The reaction of the Philadelphia bankers shows more conclusively than it has probably ever before been demonstrated that the banking methods of the Quaker City bankers are good and that the banks are in sound condition.

A delegation of bankers from the cotton-growing States met in St. Louis on Monday and ratified the plan for raising a cotton loan fund of \$100,000,000. The plan now awaits the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury and the Federal Reserve Board. It has the approval of President Wilson.

The bill created by the Bank of Texas, with a proposed capital stock of \$25,000,000, for relief of the cotton situation, was defeated by the Texas Legislature. During the week the New York Cotton Exchange completed its first subscription, \$2,000,000, was deposited at the Clearing House in four hours, where it now is, if the disposal of the committee. That the gold has not been called for would seem to indicate that conditions are becoming better, or else that the subscription of other cities are sufficient for the moment. The reaction of the Philadelphia bankers shows more conclusively than it has probably ever before been demonstrated that the banking methods of the Quaker City bankers are good and that the banks are in sound condition.

A statement issued by Secretary McAdoo on Tuesday showed that the prevailing rate of interest on loans of national banks and trust companies in most of the financial centers was 6 per cent. Philadelphia was given a clean bill of health. It was stated that no case had been reported where a bank in this city had been forced to liquidate. The New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad started suit against John L. Billard and five other officers of the Billard Company, claiming \$147 in connection with the sale of the Hartford and Maine Railroad. Within a week it is expected that the decree providing for the dissolution of the New Haven will be filed in New York.

Stockholders of the Canadian Pacific Railway voted to increase the capital stock \$75,000,000 to \$333,000,000. The Toronto weekly bulletin of the American Railway Association showed that on October 1 there was a net surplus of 100 freight cars on the sidings and in yards of railroads in the United States and Canada of 131,027, a decrease of 522. Although this decrease is not large, yet it shows that a little more freight is moving, and that freight business is the mainstay of the railroads.

The Government crop report, which was issued on Wednesday, showed up well. We are now virtually assured of a bumper wheat crop, and this is a very important feature of the country's history. This crop comes at a very opportune time. Of course, we will have a very large surplus that will not be needed, and that will be exported to Europe. This should go a long way toward helping our foreign credit. The indicated yield of wheat, spring and winter, is 2,000,000 bushels, against the final of 1,753,000 bushels in 1913, and 2,000,000 bushels, against a final last year of 2,416,985,000 bushels.

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